

## **BIOGRAPHY**

### **Colonel Erica R. Williams**

### **Missouri Wing Commander**

Colonel Erica R. Williams is the Missouri Wing Commander of the Civil Air Patrol, a nonprofit, benevolent organization devoted to humanitarian activities, and by law the official auxiliary of the United States Air Force.

Colonel Williams has served as the Vice Commander for Missouri Wing before being selected as the Missouri Wing Commander and is currently responsible for CAP operations in the state of Missouri. She oversees more than 1,000 members in almost 40 units across the state.

Colonel Williams is a native of Marshall, Missouri. She attended Truman State University and graduated with a Bachelors Degree in History and a Masters Degree in Education with emphasis in Social Studies. She holds teaching certifications in Middle School and High School social studies, as well as Adult Education and Literacy.



Colonel Williams currently works as the Vocational Education Supervisor at Algoa Correctional Center in Jefferson City, Missouri. Previously, she was a high school teacher in Farmington, Missouri.

Colonel Williams first joined the CAP in 1993 as a cadet and completed the CAP cadet program earning its highest award, the General Carl A. Spaatz Award, in 1999. Only two cadets in one thousand earn the Spaatz Award. As a cadet she participated in the national Cadet Officer School and the International Air Cadet Exchange program where she travelled to Switzerland representing the United States.

Colonel Williams served as Deputy Commander for Cadets of the Saline County Composite Squadron, and Squadron Commander of the North Missouri Composite Squadron. She later served successfully in several Missouri Wing Staff positions, including Director of Cadet Programs, Director of Personnel and Administrative Officer, Director of Professional Development, and Chief of Staff before being appointed Missouri Wing Vice Commander.

Colonel Williams' Civil Air Patrol awards include the Exceptional Service Award, Meritorious Service Award with Clasp, multiple Commander's Commendations, the Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. Award, the Grover Loening Award, the Paul E. Garber Award, and the Brigadier General Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager Aerospace Education Achievement Award. She was named the Missouri Wing Senior Member of the Year for 2010.

Colonel Williams lives in Jefferson City, Missouri. A second generation Missouri Wing Commander, she joins her father, Colonel Emmitt G. Williams, who served as Wing Commander from 1991 to 1995.